

KLEW-TV
Oct. 2011 – Dec. 2011

U of I Campus Safety:

The murder-suicide at the University of Idaho between faculty member, Professor Ernesto Bustamante and former student Katy Benoit raises issues of deficiencies in security policies and emergency procedures for student and faculty safety.

Washington State Budget Cuts:

Public concerned by the reduced funding to areas like education, public safety and health care to deal with a 1.4 billion deficit in Washington State.

Occupy Protests Movement:

As economic protests spread globally, the inequality and abuses of the financial system needs addressed. The goal is to build shared prosperity and hold regulators and regulations accountable and responsible.

Storm Water Controversy:

Citizens are concerned with the increase of environmental protections and the cost of implementing a Stormwater utility fee.

Poverty:

The sour economy has left thousands of adults scrambling for work and keeping food on the table. Donations are needed to meet the basic necessities of middle to low-income residents.

KLEW-TV
Issues/Programs List
Oct. 2011 – Dec. 2011

The Need to Address University of Idaho Campus Safety

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/25/11, 5:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:41

Description: KLEW News reported that the employment records of former University of Idaho psychology professor, Ernesto Bustamante will be released tomorrow. The release of the records comes two months after he killed graduate student Katy Benoit. U of I President Duane Nellis will discuss the records at a 1pm news conference in the Borah Theater in the Student Union Building. Bustamante shot Benoit August 22nd at her home three days after he resigned from the university. Benoit had been in a romantic relationship with Bustamante, but filed a sexual harassment complaint with the school after he made several violent threats against her.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/27/11, 6:00p.m.

Duration: 1:07

Description: KLEW News reported that the disturbing details surrounding the murder of U of I student Katy Benoit and the suicide of her killer, former professor Ernesto Bustamante, have come to light with the release of information by the university. KLEW News received personnel records, emails and thousands of other documents related to Bustamante. A student evaluation from last fall claimed Bustamante "talked about shooting students" which was disturbing. Records of conversations with Benoit revealed other disturbing details about how he was alleged to have multiple sexual relationships with other students. Benoit detailed an incident in which she admitted to stealing pills commonly referred to as Xanax from Bustamante, prompting him to put a gun to her head.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/28/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:58

Description: KLEW News reported that a University of Idaho professor, Ernesto Bustamante, who killed graduate student Katy Benoit and himself in August developed curriculum focusing on the behaviors of stalkers. The stalking curriculum was to be taught this fall. According to documents, Bustamante developed the stalking materials for his introductory research class. After Bustamante killed Benoit on August 22nd, the assignments and research papers that were geared toward stalking behaviors caused alarm inside the university's psychology department. One student wrote that the subject matter seemed highly inappropriate and offensive, and professors agreed.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/3/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 2:21

Description: KLEW News reported that questions as to how the Moscow Police Department could have known about the multiple threats Ernesto Bustamante made to Katy Benoit with a gun and not acted before her death have raised concern from the community. Police Chief David Duke says the department did attempt to reach out to her. Moscow Police Chief David Duke says, "Phone calls were never returned by Katy, so we contacted the university and they told us that Katy had been referred to Alternatives to Violence on the Palouse and at this point didn't want any police contact; so we didn't take any additional action at that point." UI officials say that after Benoit registered an official complaint with the university and a threat assessment team was then assembled. That team included a member of the Moscow Police Department.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 12/1/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:03

Description: KLEW News reported that the independent review panel hired to review the University of Idaho's procedures of action following the murder of graduate student Katy Benoit by a dismissed professor, announced their findings. The three member panel reported on their research Wednesday by pointing out that the university's emergency management plan is comprehensive; however it falls short of being helpful in dire situations. The panel recommends the university write a one-page synopsis on how to specifically handle emergencies. They also recommend U of I officials need to install a process focused on addressing student concerns in regard to disturbing or disruptive behavior by faculty members.

The Need to Address Washington State Budget Cuts

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/11/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:33

Description: KLEW News reported that Washington state lawmakers began considering ideas on how to fix the state's budget situation. A Senate committee heard proposals today that would further reduce teacher salaries, release prisoners early, and eliminate nearly all substance abuse services. Senate Republican Leader Mike Hewitt called the cuts eye-opening and said the reductions in prisons would be a threat to safety. Lawmakers are simply starting the process of reviewing options to find about \$2 billion in cuts before special sessions that starts at the end of November.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/27/11 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:35

Description: KLEW News reported that Washington Governor Christine Gregoire says right now she's looking at deep cuts, not new taxes, as a way to cover the state's mounting budget deficit. People of the state are not spending. Businesses are not hiring. We need to cut 2 billion more. Higher education, colleges and universities face a 15% cut. K-12, the state's highest priority will be cut by \$365 million. Mental health, food assistance, programs to help the poor kids and seniors \$380 million cut. As for health care the basic health plan disappears, so does the disability lifeline. That will affect 46,000 without insurance. People are not going to get what they need or services they expect.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/21/11, 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:45

Description: KLEW News reported that Washington residents could pay a half cent more in sales tax if Governor Christine Gregoire has her way. According to the Spokesman Review voters could be asked to approve the increase in March. It will help offset some of the nearly \$2 billion in cuts the state is facing, including \$500 million in education. The sales tax would increase from six and a half percent to seven percent starting in August. The tax would revert back to six and a half percent after three years. The increase would raise nearly a half billion dollars for fiscal year 2013. A simple majority from both houses of the legislature is all that's needed to get the measure on the ballot. And then a simple majority of voters would have to say yes for it to become law.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/28/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:17

Description: KLEW News reported that earlier today protesters stormed a budget hearing in the Washington State capitol building and they arrested one man and shut the building down. Keith Eldridge from our sister station in Seattle KOMO explains the painful cuts lawmakers face. The tough budget decisions start here in the House Ways and Means committee. Everything got off to a rough start as demonstrators tried pushing into the already overcrowded hearing room. State troopers sealed off the building and made an arrest. Lawmakers postponed the hearing but say you can't postpone the inevitable cuts that need to be made.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/30/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:10

Description: KLEW News reported that in the last three years, the Clarkston School District's budget has been reduced to three quarters of what it once was. Superintendent Darcy Weisner feels they've absorbed those losses well. The district has not hired back retired positions, cut material and supply budgets and scaled back contracts. He said the potential budget reduction the Legislature is now in talks over is going to be tough to deal with. "I'm not going to speculate until I really know what the bottom line is and we can sit down with our labor groups, our managers and the central office and really determine what the overall impact is," said Weisner. Governor Christine Gregoire has proposed a shorter school year, increased class sizes and elimination of school bus transportation. All of which Weisner disagrees with. He said they've been able to keep the prior cuts out of the classroom as much as possible and these new reductions could hurt students' education.

The Need to Address Occupy Protest Movement

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/3/11, 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:23

Description: KLEW News reported that a small group of protesters gathered in New York City today to raise their voice against the weekend arrests of more than 700 members of the Occupy Wall Street movement. Police arrested members of the group for blocking traffic lanes on the Brooklyn Bridge in an unauthorized protest. They issued more than 700 arrest orders on Saturday to members of the anti-Wall Street movement. Despite multiple warnings, the group marched in the Brooklyn-bound lanes, which snarled traffic in the area until the bridge was reopened hours later. Most of the protesters arrested were issued citations and released.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/6/11, 5:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:46

Description: KLEW News reported that the "Occupy Wall Street" rally has gone national, with supporters protesting in different cities across the United States. We head to Seattle where men and women in tents tried to stand their ground. Outside one of the tents, a scuffle happened as some of the protestors tried to keep police from making arrests. Inside that tent the 4 protestors had a gas mask to protect against tear gas. All had agreed to stand their ground and be arrested, but still the strain of facing a jail cell brought tears. Earlier park rangers had gone to each individual tent with a warning. Any tent that doesn't get claimed is going to be removed.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/24/11, 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:38

Description: KLEW News reported that a credit union in Medford, Oregon reported a spike in new accounts that appears to be related to local Occupy Wall Street demonstrations urging people to move their money out of big banks that received federal bailouts. The Rogue Federal Credit Union told the local newspaper the demonstrations "definitely have some sort of role in all of this." Gene Pellham says the thrift saw 1,000 new accounts at its seven branches from September first to October Fifteenth, when they normally would expect 700 new accounts. Demonstrators have been urging customers of Chase Bank in Ashland, Oregon to move their money to credit unions to protest big bank bailouts.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/1/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:31

Description: KLEW News reported that members of the Occupy Spokane movement will meet Wednesday and may decide if they will continue to maintain a twenty four hour presence even as temperatures drop this winter. Sometimes there are only one or two people carrying signs on a little triangle of city property on the corner of Riverside Avenue and Monroe Street. Some demonstrators vow the movement will continue, even if they have to shovel snow off the site. Unlike other Occupy Wall Street spin-offs across the nation, Spokane's has been free of run-ins with police.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/30/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:47

Description: KLEW News reported that after two days of chaos at the capitol protestors have stayed peaceful so far today. Lawmakers are in the rotunda and protestors are trying to storm into meeting rooms. Today members of the occupy movement marched and demonstrated with members of other groups including state workers and union leaders. A sharp contrast to the past two evenings when troopers arrested 15 protestors from the occupy movement who refused orders to leave the building. Some of the mainstream groups think the disruptive protests are swaying lawmakers. And members of those groups would consider the same tactics if lawmakers don't show they're listening.

The Need to Address Stormwater Issues

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/21/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:13

Description: KLEW News reported that The Washington Department of Ecology has come out with the next generation of stormwater permits. The updated permits are different for the western and eastern sides of the state. Sandy Howard, of the Department Of Ecology says they recognize our side of the state is a different terrain and climate. She says it's not just about polluted runoff, but managing drainage and sewer systems. District Nine Representative Susan Fagan has her own opinions on the matter, while Howard says these new permits are meant to ease financial struggles. "They're big on command and control regulations and they're very short on the data. We're trying to improve environmental protections. The economic relief piece is that the new permits will not go into effect until 2013."

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/2/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:42

Description: KLEW News reported that Asotin County Stormwater Coordinator Cheryl Sonnen and the rest of the management team have been working the budget. The bulk of their spending was paid for by a \$287,000 grant from the Department of Ecology. Last week, it was decided to change from the current 20 year NPO boundary to the 2000 census defined boundary. The new boundary is effective in January. Recently, the Department of Ecology released quote "next generation of permits to increase environmental protections against polluted runoff." Sonnen says the management team is reviewing the plan and will make some recommendations. 9th District legislators Senator Mark Schoesler, Representatives Joe Schmick and Susan Fagan responded to the recommendations saying "We cannot support, imposing more onerous requirements because such new rules are premature until more research and solid data on stormwater runoff is completed. We must ensure that accurate scientific data is used to justify the growing costly regulations and mandates."

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/8/11 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:28

Description: KLEW News reported that the Idaho Supreme court says the Lewiston stormwater fee is actually a tax. The justices issued their ruling on the case yesterday. In it, Justice Warren Jones says because the fee is used to generate funds for general repairs and not direct benefits, it is defined as a tax under state law. The four other justices concurred with the opinion. The decision upholds the earlier ruling issued this year by Second District Court Judge John Bradbury. City attorney Don Roberts says the city council does have the option of requesting reconsideration, but says that's not likely.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/21/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:26

Description: KLEW News reported that at the Asotin County Commissioner's meeting the Operation and Development Plan for the stormwater utility was supposed to be completed in August. Due to a shortage of staff, Stormwater Manager Cheryl Sonnen wasn't able to finish it on time. Now they say they're under pressure from the Department of Ecology to complete the plan as soon as possible. Several citizens voiced their opposition to the \$25,000 contract with Otak to create the plan. Even the commissioners chided Sonnen and the team on the late start. Commissioners unanimously approved the contract, hoping to appease the Department of Ecology and have a final draft of the plan by February. Otak's now charged with several tasks including data gathering, drafting and training sessions.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 12/5/11, 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:02

Description: KLEW News reported that the Lewiston City Council voted unanimously tonight to refund all stormwater fees the Idaho Supreme Court ruled the city collected illegally. The city says the nearly 1.2 million dollars in collected fees will either be credited to future utility bills or will be returned by check. The only question is the exact method the city will employ and the timeframe they plan to do it. The approximate amount is \$54 per residence. The city says all the funds were expended on the program. The city is figuring out where to come up with the money. One option is to borrow from the Enterprise Fund, but Mayor Kevin Poole says that needs to be paid back, likely via a property tax increase totaling about seven percent.

The Need to Address Poverty

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 10/31/11, 11:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:50

Description: KLEW News reported that the third annual "Coats for the Cold" drive in Lewiston starts today. People are invited to drop off new or gently used coats, blankets and sleeping bags for the next two weeks at various locations. Last year, Coats for the Cold brought in more than 400 coats. Heather Lawless, Promotions Coordinator says that in our community there are over 2,000 people that need our help and so if we can get even just 500 coats that make a big difference. The coats will be picked up, cleaned and distributed to those who need them on Friday, November 18 from Noon to 4p.m. at the Habitat Store located on G Street in Lewiston.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 11/2/11 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:55

Description: KLEW News reported that The Saint Vincent DePaul Society once again hopes to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate this holiday season. The organization will give away a new wrapped toy or gift to each child 16 years and under. This is the 26th annual Christmas Connection. Organizers say they could use more donations, especially for teenagers. They're behind on their goal this year and say their future relies on contributions. The economy has hurt donations, so they're hoping folks step forward this year and keep the program alive.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 12/5/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 0:53

Description: KLEW News reported that hunger is everywhere, even on the Palouse. Over the weekend the biggest single day food drive collected nearly 40,000 pounds of food to feed the hungry. Palouse area residents were asked to open their doors and pantries for nonperishable food donations to Palouse Cares. All of the collected goods were then donated to food banks in Moscow, Pullman, Colfax and Potlatch. Around 500 volunteers collected 38,000 pounds of food by going door-to-door in local neighborhoods. This food drive and fundraiser has been helping local food banks and non-profit organizations on the Palouse for the last 16 years.

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 12/20/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:10

Description: KLEW News reported that Regence Blue-Shield employees sponsored twenty-eight children and seven families this year at the Northwest Children's Home. Employees came together this afternoon with gifts to wrap and deliver to the children. Employees selected names from a Christmas tree and were provided with wish lists the children made. Samantha Skinner Regence Community Investment Specialists says, "Regence is just proud to partner with Northwest Children's Home to support the kids at the home especially during this holiday time. We know that there is a great need in the valley and we are happy to be able to help."

Program: KLEW-TV News

Date/Time: 12/20/11, 6:00 p.m.

Duration: 1:10

Description: KLEW News reported that Christmas came early for the city of Asotin as community members worked together to provide basic necessities for families in need. Twenty-five families, including 62 children and 31 adults were surprised tonight with clothes, food, toiletries and gifts for this holiday season. Home to School Coordinator Marcia Barkley says this is the largest number of families they have ever helped since the event started in 2001. Each year several community service groups ask the school district if they can provide the names of families to help during Christmas. The suggestions are all anonymous and every family is accommodated for. In a class-to-class competition, this year's 8th grade class brought in 1,100 food items, almost double than any other class this year at the high school.